

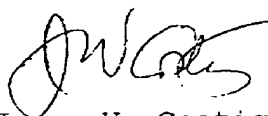
REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, the applicant elects Group I, claims 7 and 8, and further elects the copper salt of copper (II) methoxysuccinic acid, with traverse. Claims 7 and 8 are listed as reading on the elected species.

The claims of the present application have a technical relation in that the compounds of claims 7-8 and the claims grouped in Groups II-IV have the same technical feature and in that the compounds of claims 7-8 are used in the practice of the claims of Groups II-IV and under the ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT, page AI-58, which is available as Annex B to APPENDIX T of the MPEP, if there is a technical relation between the separately grouped claims, restriction or an election of species should not be required. In this case there is a sufficient technical basis on which to link the claims. In addition, the species election requirement is improper as it is not provided for in the PCT Rules. For these reasons, it is requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



James V. Costigan
Reg. No. 25,669

Hedman & Costigan, P.C.
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 302-8989